Modernization of Gujarat police

803. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the plan for modernization of Gujarat police force;

(b) whether any specific assistance is being given to Gujarat having border with Pakistan, to check illegal migrants and protect the borders;

(c) how much assistance was given to Gujarat during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 under the 'Coastal Security Scheme'; and

(d) whether any special package is proposed in view of the requirement of finance for security of borders in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) An outlay of Rs. 49.33 crore has been approved for modernization of Police in Gujarat during 2006-07 under the Central Scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme), which includes Central grant of Rs. 37.00 crore. During 2003-04 to 2005-06, Central assistance of Rs. 121.60 crore was released to the Government of Gujarat under the MPF Scheme against which the State Government has reported utilization of Rs. 87.60 crore.

(b) Central Government is carrying out fencing and flood lighting of the Indo-Pakistan border. Out of 310 Kms of international border in Gujarat, to be fenced and flood lit, 207 Kms have been fenced and 178 Kms flood lit. Further, under the MPF Scheme, Central assistance is being provided to Gujarat from 2005-06 for strengthening infrastructure of police stations in desert areas.

(c) An amount of Rs. 3.01 crore was released during 2005-06 under the Coastal Security Scheme. No funds were released during 2003-04 and 2004-05 as this Scheme was commenced only from 2005-06.

(d) No special package is under consideration of the Government. However, Central Government is implementing a Scheme for Border Area Development Programme, in identified border blocks for meeting the special developmental needs of the border population and promoting a sense of security among them. Under the Scheme, 10% of the allocation can be used by security forces for security related developmental activities.